

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119481
ORIGIN EA-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 /009 R

66011

DRAFTED BY EA:GMILLER:KAM

APPROVED BY EA:KQUINN

-----242023Z 027150 /63

O 241808Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119481

LIMDIS - FOR ARMACOST FROM HOLBROOKE

FOL RPT TOKYO 7579 ACTION SECSTATE TREASURY DEPT WASHDC INFO
OECD PARIS 24 MAY 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7579

LIMDIS

USMISSION OECD FOR UNDER SECRETARY SOLOMON

FROM BLUMENTHAL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SUB-CABINET LEVEL BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH
JAPANESE

1. AT DINNER WITH FINANCE MINISTER BOH LAST NIGHT, I RAISED THE
SUGGESTION DISCUSSED WITH HOLBROOKE AND OTHERS, NAMELY THE
ADVISABILITY OF SMALLER BILATERAL MEETINGS, ESPECIALLY ON
ECONOMIC ISSUES, AT THE SUB-CABINET LEVEL. I INDICATED IT WOULD
BE USEFUL FOR U.S. OFFICIALS TO MEET WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE
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COUNTERPARTS AT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, MINISTRY OF INTER-
NATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
AND TO INCLUDE THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY WHERE
USEFUL. I FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT SHORTER SESSIONS WITH CABINET-
LEVEL OFFICIALS MIGHT ALSO BE HELPFUL.

2. BOH REACTED VERY FAVORABLY, SAYING HE WOULD PURSUE THIS

SUGGESTION AND SAW MUCH VALUE IN IT. MATSUKAWA,WHO LEFT LAST NIGHT FOR PARIS, SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THIS WITH SOLOMON THERE.

3. BASED ON MY CONVERSATIONS HERE, I THINK SUCH MEETINGS ARE A DESIRABLE THING THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE ACTIVELY. CLEARLY SOME JAPANESE DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND SOME OF THE REALITIES ON MAJOR ECONOMIC ISSUES BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPAN AND THOSE WHO DO HAVE TROUBLE GETTING THE COOPERATION OF THEIR COLLEAGUES. THIS TYPE OF MEETING, FORTIFIED BY OCCASIONAL CABINET-LEVEL MEETINGS, WILL DO MUCH TO ENABLE THE JAPANESE TO UNDERSTAND OUR POSITION MORE FULLY.

SHOESMITH

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE119481
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GMILLER:KAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770185-0385
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770523/aaaaatlo.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 444cd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2387850
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE SUB-CABINET LEVEL BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH JAPANESE
TAGS: EFIN, JA, US
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/444cd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009